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PATENT ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 040894-5766

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

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Confirmation No.: 7724

Keijiro MURAYAMA et al.

Group Art Unit: 3753

Application No.: 10/092,352

Examiner: John A. RIVELL

Filed: March 7, 2002

For: APPARATUS FOR OUTPUTTING

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> <u>UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)</u>

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in § 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by the fee of \$180.00 as specified by § 1.17(p).

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The items of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was first cited in a European Search Report issued by the European Patent Office on November 27, 2003. A copy of the European Search Report is enclosed for the Examiner's consideration.

Documents DE 195 15 895 and FR 2 625 545 are listed on the accompanying PTO Form 1449 and are in a language other than English. English language abstracts are provided.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "Prior Art." If it should be determined that the listed documents do not constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

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EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

Dated: February 23, 2004

By:

Peter J/Sistare Reg. No. 48,183

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Application No.: 10/092,352 Attorney Docket No. 040894-5766 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION Use several sheets if necessary) Applicants: Keijiro Murayama, et al. PAGE 1 of 1 Group Art Unit: 3753 Filing Date: March 7, 2002 FEB 23 2004 PTO Form 1449 THE THADENARY **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** Sub Filing Date Class Name Document *Examiner Date Class Number Initial Kohn et al. July 25, 1995 5,435,342 Vigneau et al. August 4, 1987 4,683,905 Neff 4,579,042 April 1, 1986 Hodges et al. October 8, 1996 5,562,121 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS **Translation** Sub Document **YES** NO Class Class Country Number Date X July 7, 1989 France 2 625 545 04298691 Oct. 22, 1992 Japan (abstract only) X DE 195 15 895 A1 Oct. 31, 1996 Germany OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) MAR 0 3 2004 TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700 Date Considered Examiner Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if Examiner: not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.